

Appl. No. 10/053,183

Reply to Office Action of June 18, 2004

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the final Office Action mailed June 18, 2004.

Reexamination and reconsideration in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks is respectfully solicited. Claims 2-17 are pending in this application, with claims 4, 6, 7, 8, 12 and 15 being the independent claims. Claims 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7, have been amended and claim 1 has been canceled.

Request to Admit the Amendment

Applicant submits that the foregoing amendment complies with requirements of form set forth in the office action. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116(b), Applicant requests the Examiner admit the amendment.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 1-7 and 11 were rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner stated that the limitation of "the line replacement unit" in independent claim 1 was without sufficient antecedent basis. In this response, applicant has cancelled claim 1. Claims 4, 6 and 7 were amended to include the limitations of claim 1. In those claims, this limitation has been amended to recite "the line replaceable unit". Applicant

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submits that the amended limitation has proper antecedent support, and that claims 2-7 and 11 are now believed to conform with Section 112. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 2-7 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 be withdrawn.

Indication of Allowable Subject Matter

In the office action, the Examiner allowed claims 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14 and 15-17. The Examiner objected to claims 4, 6, 7 and 11 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, applicants have amended claims 4, 6, and 7, rewriting these claims in independent form, including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants thus submit that amended independent claims 4, 6 and 7 are now allowable. Furthermore, as claim 5 depends from, and includes all the limitations of amended independent claim 4, it is also submitted to be allowable. Finally, as claims 2, 3, and 11 depend from, and include all the limitations of amended independent claim 7, they are also submitted to be allowable.

Conclusion

Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that the application, as amended, is now in condition for allowance, and such allowance is therefore earnestly requested. Should the Examiner have any questions or wish to further discuss this application, applicant requests that the Examiner contact the Applicant's attorneys at the number below.

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The above Amendment adds two new Independent Claims. Please charge Deposit Account No. 50-2091 \$172.00 to cover the fee for these added claims. Additionally, If for some reason Applicant has not requested a sufficient extension and/or have not paid a sufficient fee for this response and/or for the extension necessary to prevent abandonment on this application, please consider this as a request for an extension for the required time period and/or authorization to charge Deposit Account No. 50-2091 for any fee which may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

INGRASSIA FISHER & LORENZ

Dated: 3. Sept 2004By: 

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